CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: The Improvised Munitions Black Book, Section V (Part I)

Other known title(s): Black Book, Section V pt 1

OFLC ref: 1800622.023

Medium: Text File

Publisher: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: English

Applicant: Commissioner of Police

Classification: Objectionable.

Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 24 June 2019

Date of direction to issue

a label:

No direction to issue a label has been issued

Date of notice of decision: 24 June 2019

Summary of reasons for decision:

The text file contains instructions on how to make grenades and an incendiary device. The publication's availability poses a high risk of injury to the public good that cannot be mitigated by an age restriction because of the way it promotes and encourages the creation of legally restricted devices that can only have a criminal application. Although most reasonable New Zealanders would be unlikely to attempt to make these devices, they are not the intended audience for the publications. The likelihood of injury arises from its availability to those with malicious intent. The publication is intended to instruct on how to make weapons which have no legitimate purpose other than to cause serious physical harm or property damage. Of further concern is the high risk of physical injury, or even death, to those assembling them and to anyone targeted by them. The objectionable classification limits the right to freedom of expression contained in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, it is a reasonable and justified limitation given the high risk of injury to the public good from the publication's availability.